



Department of Planning and Community Development

Policy # Build – 05-01

Section 1003.3.3.5.2 of the International Building Code 2000 states in part:

Outdoor stairways and outdoor approaches to stairways shall be designed so that water will not accumulate on walking surfaces. In other than Group R-3, and occupancies in Group R-3, treads, platforms, and landings that are part of exterior stairways in climates subject to snow or ice shall be protected to prevent the accumulation of same.

Section 1009 of the International Building Code 2003 edition states in part:

Outdoor stairways and outdoor approaches to stairways shall be designed so that water will not accumulate on walking surfaces. In other than occupancies in Group R-3, and occupancies in Group U that are accessory to an occupancy in Group R-3, treads, platforms and landings that are part of exterior stairways in climates subject to snow or ice shall be protected to prevent the accumulation of same.

Because Norfolk, Virginia enjoys a relatively mild climate and further because the stairs and landings do not freeze over as often as localities in northern climates, this provision is modified as follows:

Stairs that serve floor levels on buildings of other than one or two family residential buildings that are one story above grade do not need to be protected. Stairs that connect more than one story above grade must be protected as required.